AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method of cutting a rare-earth alloy with a wire saw comprising the steps of:

providing a wire saw ~~obtained~~ by fixing abrasive grains on a core wire with a resin layer, wherein an average distance between two of the abrasive grains, which are adjacent to each other in a length direction, is about 150% to less than about 400% of the average grain size of the abrasive grains, an average height of portions of the abrasive grains, protruding from the surface of the resin layer, is about 70% or less of the average grain size of the abrasive grains, and a thickness deviation percentage of the resin layer with respect to the core wire is about 40%; ~~, the method comprising the step of~~

providing a coolant, which is mainly composed of water and has a surface tension of about 25 mN/m to about 60 mN/m at approximately 25°C; and

moving the wire saw so as to cut the rare-earth alloy while a portion of the rare-earth alloy being cut by the wire saw is immersed in ~~a~~ the coolant~~, which is mainly composed of water and has a surface tension of about 25 mN/m to about 60 mN/m at approximately 25°C, thereby cutting the rare earth alloy; wherein~~

~~in the wire saw, an average distance between two of the abrasive grains, which are adjacent to each other in a length direction, is about 150% to less than about 400% of the average grain size of the abrasive grains, an average height of portions of the abrasive grains, protruding from the surface of the resin layer, is about 70% or less of the average grain size of the abrasive grains, and a thickness deviation percentage of the resin layer with respect to the core wire is about 40%.~~

Claim 10 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 9, wherein the average grain size D of the abrasive grains satisfies $20\mu m \leq D \leq 60\mu m$.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 9, wherein the core wire has a diameter of about 0.12 mm to about 0.2 mm.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 9, wherein the resin layer is made of one of a phenol resin, an epoxy resin and a polyimide resin.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 9, further including the step of providing a plurality of rollers, wherein ~~the step of moving the wire saw includes the step of moving the wire saw on plurality of rollers, and~~ each of the plurality of rollers includes a polymer layer on which a guide groove is provided, the guide groove has a pair of sloped surfaces, at least one of the sloped surfaces of the guide

groove defines an angle of about 25 degrees to less than about 45 degrees with respect to a radial direction of the roller, wherein the step of moving the wire saw includes the steps of moving the wire saw on the plurality of rollers and passing the wire ~~is passed~~ between the sloped surfaces of the guide groove.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 9, wherein the rare-earth alloy is an R-Fe-B based rare-earth sintered alloy.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 14, wherein the rare-earth alloy is an Nd-Fe-B based rare-earth sintered alloy.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 9, further including feeding ~~wherein~~ the wire saw ~~is fed~~ with a tension about 25 N to about 35 N while moving the wire saw ~~being moved~~ to cut the rare-earth alloy.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 9, wherein the coolant is at least approximately 70 wt% water.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 9, wherein a temperature of the coolant is about 15°C to about 35°C.

Claim 19 (canceled).

Claim 20 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 9, wherein the coolant has at least one of a surfactant, a synthetic lubricant, an antifoaming agent, a pH of about 8 to about 11, and a rust preventive material.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 9, wherein the wire saw is made of one of a piano wire, Ni-Cr alloy, Fe-Ni alloy, W, Mo, and a bundle of nylon fibers.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 9, wherein the abrasive grains are made of one of diamond, SiC, B, C and CBN.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A method of cutting a rare-earth alloy with a wire saw comprising the steps of:

providing a wire saw ~~obtained~~ by fixing abrasive grains on a core wire with a resin layer, wherein an average distance between two of the abrasive grains, which are adjacent to each other in a length direction, is about 150% to less than about 400% of the average grain size of the abrasive grains, an average height of portions of the abrasive grains, protruding from the surface of the resin layer, is about 70% or less of the average grain size of the abrasive grains, and a thickness deviation percentage of the resin layer with respect to the core wire is about 40%; ~~the method comprising the step of~~

providing a coolant, which is mainly composed of water and has a kinetic friction

coefficient of about 0.1 to about 0.3 at approximately 25°C with respect to the rare-earth alloy; and

moving the wire saw so as to cut the rare-earth alloy while a portion of the rare-earth alloy being cut by the wire saw is immersed in ~~a~~ the coolant~~, which is mainly composed of water and has a kinetic friction coefficient of about 0.1 to about 0.3 at approximately 25°C with respect to the rare-earth alloy, thereby cutting the rare-earth alloy; wherein~~

~~in the wire saw, an average distance between two of the abrasive grains, which are adjacent to each other in a length direction, is about 150% to less than about 400% of the average grain size of the abrasive grains, an average height of portions of the abrasive grains, protruding from the surface of the resin layer, is about 70% or less of the average grain size of the abrasive grains, and a thickness deviation percentage of the resin layer with respect to the core wire is about 40%~~.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 23, wherein the average grain size D of the abrasive grains satisfies $20\mu m \leq D \leq 60\mu m$.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 23, wherein the core wire has a diameter of about 0.12 mm to about 0.2 mm.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 23, wherein the resin layer is made of one of a phenol resin, an epoxy resin and a polyimide

resin.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 23, further including the step of providing a plurality of rollers, wherein ~~the step of moving the wire saw includes the step of moving the wire saw on a plurality of rollers, and~~ each of the plurality of rollers includes a polymer layer on which a guide groove is provided, the guide groove has a pair of sloped surfaces, at least one of the sloped surfaces of the guide groove defines an angle of about 25 degrees to less than about 45 degrees with respect to a radial direction of the roller, wherein the step of moving the wire saw includes the steps of moving the wire saw on the plurality of rollers and passing the wire ~~is passed~~ between the sloped surfaces of the guide groove.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 23, wherein the rare-earth alloy is an R-Fe-B based rare-earth sintered alloy.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 28, wherein the rare-earth alloy is an Nd-Fe-B based rare-earth sintered alloy.

Claim 30 (currently amended): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 23, further including feeding ~~wherein~~ the wire saw ~~is fed~~ with a tension about 25 N to about 35 N while moving the wire saw ~~being moved~~ to cut the rare-earth alloy.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 23, wherein the coolant is at least approximately 70 wt% water.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 23, wherein a temperature of the coolant is about 15°C to about 35°C.

Claim 33 (canceled).

Claim 34 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 23, wherein the coolant has at least one of a surfactant, a synthetic lubricant, an antifoaming agent, a pH of about 8 to about 11, and a rust preventive material.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 23, wherein the wire saw is made of one of a piano wire, Ni-Cr alloy, Fe-Ni alloy, W, Mo, and a bundle of nylon fibers.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The rare-earth alloy cutting method of claim 23, wherein the abrasive grains are made of one of diamond, SiC, B, C and CBN.